

From: Rodney Haas
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/2/02 10:56pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom this may concern,

Frankly I cannot believe this lawsuit lasted this long. There is no question that an excessive and unfair settlement will further destroy the software business. Microsoft has been the driving force for bringing the price of both software and hardware down. Microsoft not only has not hurt the consumer, but has radically helped.

You only need to look @ apple as a comparison. Apple has indeed harmed the consumer with unreasonably high prices. Apple has clearly harmed innovation except for the chosen few.

Microsoft has in fact had open and published interfaces to their software for years. I have used this interface many times to extend my vertical market applications. This has allowed me to add massive power to my applications without having to charge my clients.

In closing I would highly suggest that you focus your energy on something else. While some of Microsoft's competitors have been hurt, must are far to large to even qualify under the monopoly protections. Companies like Netscape were clearly not hurt selling for more than 4 billion dollars. Many other companies that have gone away, have done so because of bad UI, marketing and faulty feature sets.

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